

South Carolina's

# YF & FFA

Magazine

SUPPORT NATURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL &  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION

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**On the Cover:** 1995-1996 State FFA Officers Team - (Front row, L-R) Elizabeth Burdette, President; Chanda Helms, Treasurer; Angela Rauch, Reporter, and Shane Elrod, Sentinel. (Back row L-R) Willie Hayes, Vice-President; Corey Flournoy, National FFA President; and Scott Gantt, Secretary.

# Notes from the State Advisor

By Dr. Dale A. Law



Dr. Dale A. Law

"Leadership for a Lifetime" is the theme for the 68th Annual National FFA Convention, symbolizing the agricultural education organization's mission to develop

enthusiastic leaders for America and the agriculture industry. More than 34,000 FFA members, advisors, supporters and guests are expected to attend the convention Nov. 9-11 in the Municipal Auditorium and H. Roe Bartle Hall in Kansas City, MO., only a few blocks from where the FFA was founded in 1928.

Agriculture offers exceptional opportunities for today's young people. The national FFA Convention provides many ways for members to learn about the industry as they work with business leaders, meet members from other states, attend the Agricultural Career Show, participate in skills events and attend personal growth workshops and educational tours. The energy, excitement and leadership potential generated when this group assembles is remarkable.

The national convention, the culmination of a year's activities for FFA members, is an opportunity for recognition, business, elections and celebration. Delegates from each state will discuss topics affecting the national organization and elect a new team of national officers. Exceptional members and supporters will receive awards for their achievement and commitment to the FFA. Students will compete in finals rounds of several events, including speaking and parliamentary procedure competitions.

Opportunities for personal growth and leadership development continue with presentations by educational and motivational speakers including John Alston, motivational speaker; Emanuel Cleaver, mayor of Kansas City; Diana Golden, Olympic gold medal skier; Fred McClure, motivational speaker and former national FFA secretary from Texas; Jeanne Robertson, humorist; and David

Toma, former New York City policeman. Other speakers will be announced as they are confirmed.

Future education and career exploration also are key components of the convention. Students will have the opportunity to meet business and industry supporters of the FFA, represented through the National FFA Foundation and 1995 Sponsors' Board chaired by H.D. Cleberg, president and chief executive officer of Farmland Industries, Inc. Thousands of exhibitors will provide information about education and career possibilities at the concurrent National FFA Alumni Convention and FFA National Agricultural Career Show.

The FFA National Officers, a team of six student leaders, help plan the convention and other activities and represent the FFA on a national level. The officers kick off the convention the afternoon and evening of Nov. 8 with the opening Reflections sessions, a series of dramatic and motivational presentations that generate excitement and set the theme for the convention. The 1994-95 National FFA Officers are Corey D. Flournoy, national president from Chicago, Ill.; Travis Hagen, national secretary from Chico, Calif.; Trisha Bailey, southern region vice president from Dover, Fla.; Jennafer Neufeld, central region vice president from Inman, Kan.; Greg Vetter, western region vice president from Carpenter, Wyo.; and Lee Shroeder, eastern region vice president from Leipsic, Ohio.

FFA is a national organization of 443,906 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. The organization has 7,225 local chapters located throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands. FFA's mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Local, state and national activities and award programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom.

**And now...**

# **A Word from the President**

Greetings fellow FFA members. It is time to start a new year with your brand new state officer team. We have many great things in store for the 1995-96 school year and have already met several times to plan the events and activities for the year. As your officer team we are ecstatic about serving you this year. Through our enthusiasm and leadership we want to bring the South Carolina FFA Association through the best year it has ever seen, but we cannot do it alone. Your help will be needed in everything we do. Without your involvement and enthusiasm the FFA organization would not exist.

We plan to continue the district newsletter that was started last year. However it will be done a little different. Before each letter, chapter advisors will receive a reminder to send a list of chapter activities or a letter about chapter involvement to the district reporter. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide each chapter with the opportunity to observe the activities of other chapters so that they may learn new things and develop new ideas for their program of activities. We hope this will increase chapter involvement as well as membership.

The FFA is also individualism. As an individual, you represent yourself,

your school and your state as an FFA member. Always strive to do your best in everything and look your best everywhere you go. Set goals for yourself and do not let anything get in the way of reaching those goals. If you ever come to a point when you think you cannot go any further, remember there are six state FFA officers who have just met one of their biggest goals. Please feel free to call or write myself or any of the other officers if you have questions or suggestions for our organization. We are striving for excellence and the leadership advantage. I am looking forward to a GREAT year!

## **PLEASE WRITE!**

Your newly elected State Officers were chosen to serve your needs as representatives of the South Carolina Association of FFA. Feel free to contact them at the following addresses with program ideas, comments, suggestions, or invitations to chapter activities. They're eager to hear from you!

Elizabeth Burdette, President  
Rt. 4, Box 243  
Hemingway, SC 29554

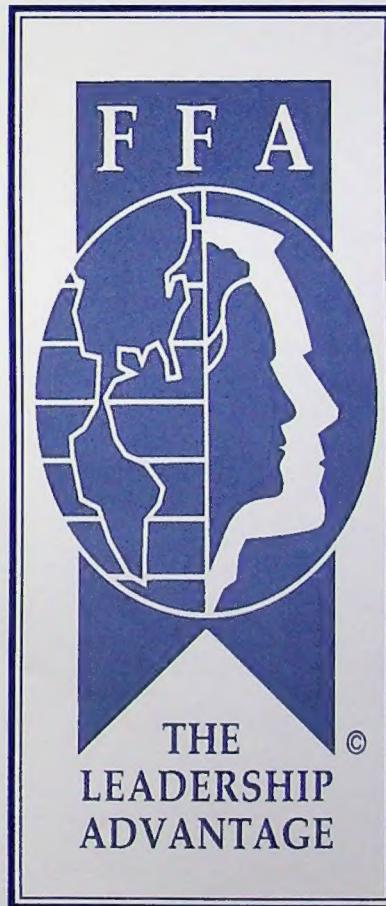
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For more information on ad rates and availability, please contact Ed Crosby at (803) 781-5151.

# Equine Industry Makes Impact

This issue of South Carolina's YF and FFA Magazine is devoted to the equine industry, which makes such a huge economical and emotional impact in our state. At present, South Carolina's 90,000 horses, mules and donkeys and 42,000 horse owners have an estimated annual impact of \$287 million with other agricultural activity contributing over 1.2 billion to the state's economy.

The South Carolina Horsemen's Council was organized six years ago to promote and improve the equine industry in South Carolina, and its purpose is to encourage equine research, provide information concerning the horse industry, promote or oppose any legislation considered pertinent to the council membership and generally promote the common interest of the equine industry and its related industries. With the Council's help, we have listed upcoming job opportunities in the equine industry for those FFA members who are horse lovers.

Although the economical impact that horses make can be measured in dollars, the emotional impact is limitless. Horses offer recreation, companionship and psychological well-being to everyone; the rewards of owning, or just spending time with horses are tremendous. In this issue, we profile Sonya and Tonya Riser, two FFA award-winning equestrians as well as the South Carolina High School Rodeo Association whose members are currently competing in the Rodeo Association's National Finals in Wyoming and the Youth Finals in Oklahoma.

We hope that you enjoy this issue on the equine industry and that you, as FFA members, will support the continued advancement of the industry in our state. If you are interested in learning more about horses, please contact Jackie Starnes at the South Carolina Horsemen's Council at (803) 478-8450.

## Dear Friends of the Equine Industry:



Les Tindal, SC Commissioner of Agriculture

The equine industry is beyond the paddock and stable. It is more than riding, breeding, watching, enjoying and investing in horses. It is an important part of our agricultural heritage — an integral part of the lifestyle of South Carolinians. And, it is all the industries which support the equine industry — trainers, boarders, laboratory technicians, transporters, veterinarians, farriers, and many others who serve and supply horses, mules, and donkeys.

Equine breeding and training are big business in the Palmetto State. Farms and ranches, ranging from 10 to 10,000 acres, abound. Our lush pastureland, rolling hills, and temperate climate combine to provide a near perfect atmosphere for the breeding and training of high quality stock, second to none. South Carolina has state-of-the-art equine facilities with high-tech barns and stables, covered indoor sale and show arenas, laboratories, and classrooms. Our exquisitely landscaped farms and ranches, surrounded by vast expanses of land for producing nutrient-rich feed and forage, are enclosed with miles of graceful, durable fencing. Buyers around the world come to South Carolina to purchase our fine horses, and top breeders and nationally-known trainers establish new farms or expand their present farms in their enterprises in the state. National and international shows and conventions are held in South Carolina which require hotel and motel as well as restaurant accommodations for both exhibitors and spectators. Whatever is needed — from horse motels for overnight boarding to lay ups and major training complexes and from trailer to tack repair service — South Carolina has it all.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture totally supports the equine industry as a vital part of agriculture by focusing on promotion and encouraging public awareness of equine activities. I am especially interested in continuing to establish marketing outlets for all price ranges of horses and attracting horse, mule, and donkey agribusiness to the state. To that effort, I established the Equine Marketing Program to encourage development of industry which includes an estimated 90,000 horses, mules, and donkeys which are cared for by over 42,000 owners.

I am proud and positive about the future of our equine industry, and I commend all who have been so intensely involved in establishing and activating the South Carolina Horsemen's Council. The SCHC has amassed a large membership in only a short time. More than that, the organization has made tremendous strides through encouraging passage of several bills vital to the industry, developed extensive educational opportunities and youth scholarship programs, created a quarterly newsletter, and received national recognition as well as published a much-needed statewide industry directory. What a visible, positive impact the South Carolina Horsemen's Council is making for the equine industry in the Palmetto State!

I encourage you to use this South Carolina Horsemen's Council Directory as a resource tool in finding equine agribusinesses in the Palmetto State. We at the South Carolina Department of Agriculture are eager to be of service to you and look forward to even greater things that the South Carolina Horsemen's Council is sure to accomplish working together for the entire equine industry.

Sincerely,

Les Tindal  
Commissioner of Agriculture

# Spotlight On Sonya And Tonya Riser, FFA Award-Winning Equestrians



Tonya Riser and her horse pause for a photo after winning an award.

Sonya and Tonya Riser began their love of horses when they were 8 years old and have not stopped riding since. In the Pendleton FFA chapter where they have been members since they were in ninth grade, the Riser twins, 17, have been recognized many times for their riding finesse. Sonya won the Horse Proficiency Award at the State FFA convention this year; the same award that Tonya won last year!

In addition to riding, the Risers show their horses in contests all over South

Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, and Oklahoma. "I show two full Arabians and one 1/2 Arabian while Sonya shows a 1/2 Arabian," says Tonya. Tonya competes in Western riding and jump while Sonya jumps and also shows hunter horses. They attend the regional horse finals, held in Perry, Georgia, every year to qualify for nationals. Although they will not attend this year, they have been to the nationals in Shoney, Oklahoma twice, and Kentucky, where it was previously held, 3 or 4 times.

The difference between the twins' two riding styles is that while Tonya jumps for speed, Sonya jumps for show. To keep informed of the latest developments concerning their beloved Arabians, both students belong to the American Arabian Horse Association (AAHA) and the International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA).

The awards Tonya and Sonya have received in the FFA have not just been limited to their equine expertise. Last year, they won the Star Chapter Farmer in Pendleton and received a plaque at the annual FFA convention. This year, they tied for District Star Farmer and will be given a certificate at the FFA annual banquet on August 5th. "Being in the FFA have given us leadership, teamwork, and organizational skills," said Tonya.

Upon graduation from Pendleton High School, Tonya and Sonya plan to attend a local junior college, then transfer to Clemson's agriculture department. Eventually, they would like to pursue a career in agribusiness or become horse trainers.



Sonya Riser and her Arabian Stemar's Litefoot compete at the Regionals in Perry, Georgia.

# ATTENTION HORSE LOVERS!

If you are an FFA member with a strong interest in horses, you might consider joining the South Carolina High School Rodeo Association (SCHSRA). The organization, founded two years ago, is open to all high school students in grades 9-12 who meet acceptable grade and conduct standards. Members compete in top state and national contests, with events ranging from bareback bronc riding, calf roping, and barrel racing, just to name a few.

For the second year in a row, the SCHSRA held their State Finals Rodeo competition June 9th and 10th at the T. Ed Garrison Livestock Arena on the Clemson University campus. The top four qualifiers at the state competition advance to the Youth Finals, held July 16-23 in Shonie, Oklahoma. The other top 22 students will compete in the National Finals taking place in Joliet, Wyoming.

"The key difference between the National and the Youth Finals are the



awards given," explains Rachael Rhines, secretary of the SCHSRA. "At the National Finals, the students vie for points while at the Youth Finals, the students compete for money." The students with the highest points at the National Finals

can receive awards, saddles and buckles. Buckles are given to the top four winners of each event while saddles are reserved for the first place winners of every event.

Events at the national competition include bare back, bulls, calf roping, cutting male/female, steer wrestling, saddle bronc, barrels, breakaway, goals, poles, and team roping. The girls are also eligible to compete in a Rodeo Queen Contest each year and awards are given to all around cowgirl and all around cowboy.

Membership in this program has grown tremendously from 20 members two years ago to 120 members today. Like the FFA, education, leadership and responsibility play key roles in the program. The SCHSRA is also dedicated in developing horsemanship, sportsmanship and character in all high school students.

If you are interested in learning more about the South Carolina High School Rodeo Association, please contact Rachael Rhines at 623-2147.

## S.C. EQUESTRIAN CALENDAR

Aug.	5	Open Breed Show, Riverbend Equestrian Park, Greenville
	18-20	Carolina Fall Roundup, SCQHA Show, T. Ed Garrison Arena, Clemson
	19-20	Palmetto Paint Horse Association, State Fairgrounds, Columbia
Sept.	1-4	SCQHA, Maxi Circuit
	9-10	Wateree Cutting Horse Association, State Fairgrounds, Columbia
	15-17	Fairwell Horse Trials, Fairwell Farms, Blythewood
	16	Newberry Horse Show, Newberry Fairgrounds, Newberry
	22-23	S.C. Walking Horse Association Championships, T. Ed Garrison Arena, Clemson
	22-24	S.C. Palomino Exhibitors Association, State Fairgrounds, Columbia
	23-30	National Barrel Horse Association, Augusta Civic Center, Augusta
	30	S.C. Chapter, Mustang & Burro Association, Riverbend Park, Greenville
Oct.	28-29	Wateree Cutting Horse Association, State Fairgrounds, Columbia
Nov.	3-5	S.C. Championship Shows, Westfall Arena, Camden
	7-12	North American Rodeo Conference, National Finals, North Charleston

For information on open show events occurring around the state, please contact Mary Ellen Tobias, Equine Marketing Specialist, S.C. Department of Agriculture at 734-2200. Address correspondence to Mary Ellen Tobias, Equine Marketing Specialist, S.C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 11280, Columbia, SC, 29211. Fax: 734-2192.

# Career Opportunities in the Equine Industry

Job possibilities in the equine industry are limitless. If you are interested in developing a career in this industry, be resourceful. When thinking about your future, consider a broad education that may be adapted later to your choice of career. The American Horse Council outlines the below considerations when planning your career:

**Be Prepared to Volunteer:** The horse industry thrives through volunteer participation and can provide the vehicle to introduce and get you involved in many aspects of horse-related activities. Often good experience can be gained by offering to work for free. This experience in turn can open doors and help you establish valuable contacts.

**Start at the Local Level:** Gain experience through your community, school and social functions. Utilize a network of people you are familiar with and expand through regional and state contacts.

**Check the Classifieds in the Trade Publications:** Frequently excellent



opportunities are advertised here. Check not only equine publications but look into sports-related magazines and association, club and organizational letters.

**Diversify While You are Deciding:** Whatever you eventual goal, consider taking courses which will enhance it.

**Talk to Professionals:** Learn from those involved. Find out where they studied, what they recommend as good training and the work they sought. You never know who will provide an aspect you have overlooked.

**Don't Limit Your Objectives:** Most importantly, if you can't get into the horse industry right away, generalize your scope, such as learning the principles of large animal care, then specialize in horses at a later date.

Below is a list of primary equine careers requiring daily contact with horses and/or horse owners. Please remember, however, that working in the industry does not always mean working directly with horses. Other careers not listed below include careers with horse shows/rodeos, in the racing industry, and those related to recreation/hunting/pleasure. For a comprehensive list of equine careers, call or write the American Youth Horse Council, 1700 K Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20006-3805.

## Veterinarian

**Extension Horse Specialist**  
**Extension Animal Specialist**

Job Qualifications: D.V.M., V.M.D., Ph.D. degree or a professional terminal degree from a recognized college or university

## College Professor

Job Qualifications: Master's Degree from a recognized college or university

**County Agriculture Agent**  
**Farm/Ranch Manager**  
**Humane Society Official**  
**Mounted Policeman**  
**Bloodstock Agent**

Job Qualifications: Baccalaureate degree from a recognized college or university

**Technical School Teacher**  
**Artificial Inseminator**  
**Veterinary Technician**  
**Transportation Specialist**  
**Trainer**  
**Stable Manager/Foreman**  
**Riding Instructor/Coach**  
**Veterinarian's Assistant**

**Breeder**  
**Auctioneer**  
**Horse-Buyer**  
**Farrier-Corrective Shoeing**  
**Identification Maker**  
**Stallion Manager**  
**Broodmare Manager**  
**Stunt Rider or Double in Movies**

Job Qualifications: One or two years education beyond high school

**Groom**  
**Sales Company Employee**

**Horse Drawn or Mounted Tour Guide**

Job Qualifications: High School diploma

*Adapted with permission by the American Horse Council*

# The 68th Annual State FFA Convention

**Premier Leadership...  
Personal Growth...  
Career Success through Ag Ed**



Keynote speaker Bob Moore instructs convention participants on how to "Take the 't' off Can't" during the opening session on Wednesday evening.



Delegates from every high school represent their chapters in conducting business for the state FFA association.

Each year, the State FFA Convention marks both the end to a successful year for agricultural education and the FFA in South Carolina and the beginning to a summer full of leadership and personal growth building activities.

Historically held at Clemson University, this year the 68th Annual State FFA Convention took place June 7th through 9th in the spacious, new Brooks Center for the Performing Arts located on the West side of campus. And for this talented group of FFAers, there could have been no better home for three days of career development events, award ceremonies, live entertainment in the form of singing, piano playing and skits, and guest appearances from several distinguished South Carolinians and former FFA members.

Several events topped this year's list of convention highlights, but perhaps the most memorable was the appearance of National FFA President, Corey Flournoy. Despite repeated airline delays and re-routing due to weather difficulties, Flournoy arrived in Clemson with a positive attitude and delivered a motivational address to the group of more than 400 members and guests in attendance. Displaying the poise and confidence characteristic of an FFA leader, Flournoy offered a humorous (and sometimes not-so-humorous) look at his own life experiences. Urging convention-goers to set personal goals for the future, he also encouraged them to accept success and failure in stride, and to learn from both.

Also speaking during the general sessions were Dr. Nancy Dunlap, Senior Executive Assistant at the State Department of Education, Commissioner of Agriculture D. Leslie Tindal (FFA, 1941), Nancy McCannon, President of the South Carolina FFA Alumni Association (FFA, 1979), and Kirby Player, Student Services Coordinator for the Clemson University Department of Agriculture. Delivering a variety of delightful speeches to the group, each thanked the association for the opportunity to be involved with the FFA and urged the students to continue their pursuit of education and to combine their strengths to build an even stronger and more successful organization for the future.

Proving to be one of the busiest days, Thursday marked the beginning of state officers' retiring addresses, career devel-

# State FFA Convention



South Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture Les Tindal speaks with Clover FFA Advisor Chris Edge and a Clover FFA member.



The S.C. FFA Foundation, chaired by Hugh McClimon (center), meets prior to the beginning of the First General Session on Wednesday.



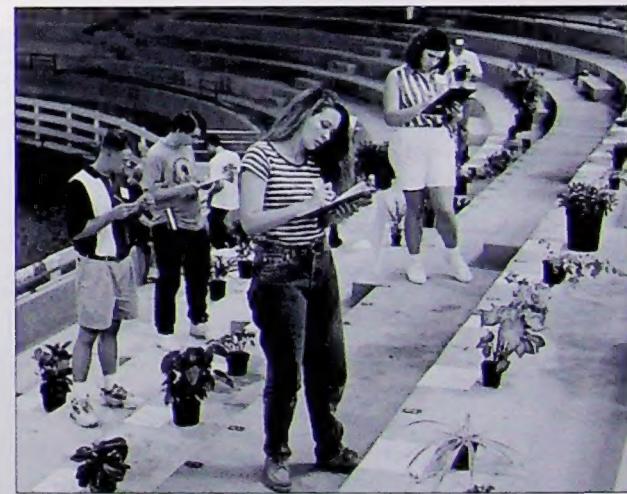
Officer candidates take a "breather" during a round of interviews for the 1995-1996 State FFA Officers Team positions. (L-R) Elizabeth Burdette, Lance Powers, Scott Gant, Corey Davis, Chanda Helms, and Larry Rider. Not pictured: Willie Hayes, Shane Elrod, and Larry Rider.



Kirby Player, Student Services Coordinator at Clemson's College of Ag Sciences poses with John Helms after receiving the Honorary State FFA Degree.



1995 State Parliamentary Procedure Champs - Pelion High FFA (L-R) David Kazee, John Taylor Long, Mandy Chavis, Scott Gant, and Paul Crawford.



FFA members compete in the Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event held at the T. Ed Garrison Livestock Arena on Thursday.

## The 68th Annual State FFA Convention (Continued)

opment finals, chapter and membership awards presentations, and a reception and drop-in and dance for advisors and guests sponsored by the South Carolina Farm Bureau. Star Farmer Timothy Blackmon of Midland Valley and Star in Agribusiness Benjamin Partain were saluted for their outstanding efforts outside the classroom, while National Scholarship Winners Lance Robertson, Elizabeth Burdette, Tonya Riser, Michelle Parker, and Frederick Young were recognized for academic achievements. In addition, Central High FFA received the distinguished Governor's Citation Award for their contributions to the "Building Our American Communities" program.

Throughout the three-day event, in the midst of the numerous activities already scheduled for convention participants, a select group of FFA members were also putting in some serious overtime in the form of interviews and oral and written tests for the opportunity to become one of the six who would be chosen to lead the State FFA Association through the coming year. Undergoing intense examinations of their leadership abilities, appearance, agricultural proficiency, and overall FFA knowledge, the final day of the convention brought with it the election of the 1995-1996 State Officers Team. They are: Elizabeth Burdette, President [Hemingway]; Willie Hayes, Vice-President [Marion]; Scott Gantt, Secretary [Pelion]; Angela Rauch, Reporter [Lexington]; Shane Elrod, Sentinel [Belton-Honea Path]; and Chanda Helms, Treasurer [McBee].

At the conclusion of the election, State FFA Advisor Dr. Dale A. Law presented the outgoing State FFA Officers Team with scholarships and thanked them for a year of exemplary service to the State FFA Association. Dr. Curtis White of Clemson's Agricultural Education Department then presented the Forgivable Loan Awards and gave special recognition to past NFA members present in the audience. Final awards in the categories of Agricultural Proficiency, Career Development, Individual FFA and Superior Chapter were then handed out, as well as State FFA Degrees.

Finally, the end of the 68th Annual State FFA Convention came with the installation of the 1995-96 State FFA Officers Team and the drawing for door prizes. No doubt when these FFAers headed home on Friday afternoon, it was with inspiration and motivation for a terrific new year.



1995 State Star Farmer Tim Blackmon of the Midland Valley FFA Chapter poses with his family and his advisor, Hugh Bland.



Finalists in the State Public Speaking Career Development Event: (L-R) Johnathon Foxworth (3rd place), Christina Smith (1st place), and Bubba Boyd (2nd place).



Nick Baskin presents the SC Fertilizer and Agrichemicals Association Scholarship to Tonya Tennille Arflin of the Pendleton FFA Chapter.



Steve Slice of the South Carolina Rural Rehabilitation Board presents the State BOAC Awards to the Loris High and Central High FFA chapters.



Determining the proper environment and use for plants is one phase of the Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event.



Belton-Honea Path and Furman Manchester FFA Chapters both received the Gold Emblem BOAC Awards at the convention. Pictured are: Ronny Burdette, Advisor Glenn Stevens, Advisor Drefus Williams and Jennifer Newman.



1995 Star in Agribusiness winner Benjamin Partain of Abbeville poses with his parents and his advisor, Fred Raines.



"Life is like . . ." says Forrest Gump, alias Past FFA President John Helms, to Carrie Raines during a skit where he related his experiences in the FFA.

**Look for a full listing of the 1995 State FFA Convention Award Winners on page 12!**



Nancy McCannon, President of the FFA Alumni Association, presents Carl Cutter with the FFA Alumni Scholarship.

# 1995 State FFA Convention Award Winners

## PUBLIC SPEAKING AWARD:

Christina Smith [Hillcrest-Dalzell]

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

### SCHOLARSHIP:

Tonya Tenille Arslin [Pendleton]

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

### AWARD:

Pelion FFA Chapter [Frank Stover, Jr., Advisor]

## NATIONAL CHAPTER SAFETY

### AWARDS:

Belton-Honea Path [Glenn Stevens, Advisor]

Furman-Manchester [Drefus Williams, Advisor]

Loris [Benjamin Hardee, Advisor]

## STATE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### EVENT AWARDS:

#### FORESTRY:

Ware Shoals [Donnie Garrett, Advisor]

#### LIVESTOCK:

Wagener-Salley [Allen Williams, Advisor]

#### SOILS:

Britton's Neck [Jerry Pace, Advisor]

#### FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT:

Britton's Neck [Jerry Pace, Advisor]

#### FLORICULTURE:

Lexington ATC [Tommy Harmon, Advisor]

#### NURSERY/LANDSCAPE:

Ridge Spring-Monetta [Rodney Mann, Advisor]

#### AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS:

Ridge Spring-Monetta [Rodney Mann, Advisor]

#### CREED SPEAKING:

[Hillcrest-Dalzell]

#### BOAC AWARDS:

##### GOLD EMBLEM:

\* Belton-Honea Path [Glenn Stevens, Advisor]

\* Central [Tim Maye, Advisor]

\* Furman-Manchester [Drefus Williams, Advisor]

\* Loris [Benjamin Hardee, Advisor]

McBee [Pat Earle, Advisor]

McDuffie [Larry Greer, Advisor]

Pleasant Hill [Ben Snipes, Advisor]

Terrell's Bay [Francis Hodges, Advisor]

#### SILVER EMBLEM:

Boiling Springs [Dennis Haltiwanger, Advisor]

Latta [Keith Cox, Advisor]

Crescent [John Herron, Advisor]

Hillcrest (Sumter) [Billy Keels, Advisor]

Travelers Rest [Jason Wiggington, Advisor]

Rock Hill [Susan Sanford, Advisor]

#### BRONZE EMBLEM:

Blacksburg [William Parker, Advisor]

Fort Mill [Mark Wyndham, Advisor]

Branchville [Jack Queener, Advisor]

Chesnee [Dennis Haltiwanger, Advisor]

Dillon ATC [J.C. Lewis, Advisor]

Hillcrest (Greenville) [Clark Woods, Advisor]

Johnsonville [Harmon Cooper, Jr., Advisor]

Lake View [John Cummings, Advisor]

#### BOAC GOVERNOR'S CITATION:

Central High FFA [Tim Maye, Advisor]

#### BOAC INDIVIDUAL AWARD:

Loris FFA, Benjamin Hardee, Advisor

#### STAR FARMER AWARDS:

Sonya and Tonya Riser, Pendleton [Dist. I]

Paul Black, York [Dist. II]

Jason Prince, Loris [Dist. III]

\* Timothy Blackmon, Midland Valley [Dist. III]

#### STAR AGROBUSINESS AWARDS:

\* Benjamin Partain, Abbeville [Dist. I]

Jamie Gunter, Lexington ATC [Dist. II]

Lance Robertson, Britton's Neck [Dist. III]

Larry Rider, Edisto [Dist. IV]

#### INDIVIDUAL FFA AWARDS:

Shane Elrod, Belton-Honea Path [Dist. I]

Amanda Chavis, Pelion [Dist. II]

Frankie Holmes, Loris [Dist. III]

Timothy Blackmon, Midland Valley [Dist. IV]

#### AGRICULTURAL ELECTRIFICATION

##### AWARD:

Douglas Lawson, Abbeville [Dist. I]

\*Melvin Taylor, Gilbert [Dist. II]

Carl Windham, Jr., Lamar [Dist. III]

Larry Rider, Edisto [Dist. IV]

#### COOPERATIVE PROGRAM AWARD:

Clover, [Chris Edge, Advisor - Dist. II]

\*Latta, [Keith Cox, Advisor - Dist. III]

#### SUPERIOR CHAPTER AWARDS:

Abbeville

Lexington

Technology Center

Aiken

Loris

Belton-Honea Path

Manning

Calhoun Falls

Mayewood

Chesterfield

Mayo

Clover

\*Crescent

Dixie

Furman-Manchester

Pendleton

Gilbert

Pleasant Hill

Hillcrest (Greenville)

\*Ridge Spring-Monetta

Hillcrest (Sumter)

Holly Hill-Roberts

Strom Thurmond

Johnsonville

Sumter Career Center

Lamar

Travelers Rest

Latta

Wilson

#### AGRICULTURAL PROFICIENCY

##### AWARDS:

###### Agricultural Electrification:

Melvin Taylor [Gilbert]

###### Agricultural Mechanics:

Phillip Huggins [Johnsonville]

###### Agricultural Sales and/or Services:

Jamie Cribb [Johnsonville]

###### Beef Production:

Jason Prince [Loris]

###### Dairy Production:

Ashley Simpson [Pendleton]

###### Diversified Livestock Production:

Adam Dean [Crescent]

###### Floriculture:

Timothy Blackmon [Midland Valley]

###### Forage Production:

Marty Skipper [Loris]

###### Home and/or Farmstead Improvement:

James Crawford [Pendleton]

###### Horse Proficiency:

Sonya Riser [Pendleton]

###### Nursery Operations:

Kevin Gause [Loris]

###### Placement in Agricultural Production:

Jamie Gunter [Lexington ATC]

###### Poultry Production:

John McGee [Crescent]

###### Specialty Animal Production:

John Bassard [Manning]

###### Sheep Production:

Phillip Long [Crescent]

###### Turf and Landscape Management:

Benjamin Partain [Abbeville]

###### Wildlife Management:

John Henzler [Pelion]

\* Denotes State Winners; forwarded to nationals

# FFA Camping Program Celebrates Decades of Success

Through two camp directors, seven state advisors, and literally thousands of FFA members, the FFA camping program has flourished in its coastal environment at Little River Neck Road near North Myrtle Beach since the late 1950s.

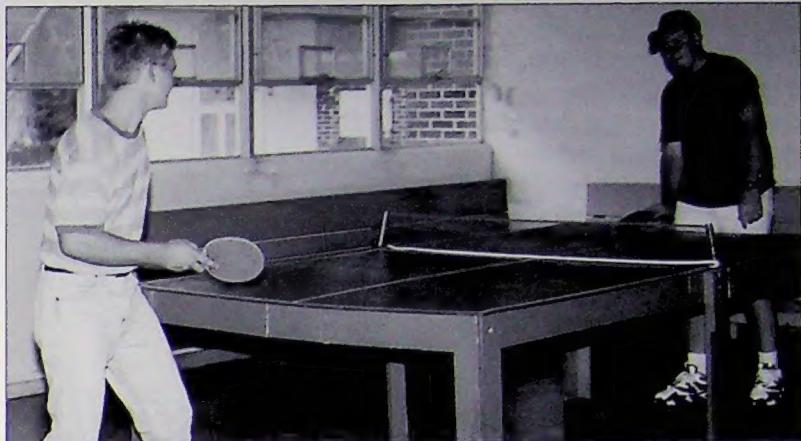
Over the years, in order to progressively improve the camp and create a program that continues to meet the goals and needs of association members, a variety of changes have taken place. They include the addition of a swimming pool and tennis courts, the development of leadership and personal growth programs, the designation of theme-oriented camping weeks, and the scheduling of off-site tours and recreation time.

This year marked not only the beginning of renewed efforts to revitalize the grounds and its buildings, but also the start of the summer camping season under the new interim director, longtime camp caretaker David Watson.

In preparation for opening day June 12th, Watson enlisted the aid of area businesses and local chapters in prepping the camp for its first 100 visitors of the year. In anticipation of their arrival the grounds were landscaped, the barracks were cleaned, and food preparation began.

Four theme weeks were scheduled, the first of which was the Environmental and Natural Resources week held June 12-16. In an attempt to bring more unique activities to the '95 sessions, Interim Camp Director Watson coordinated a laser karaoke contest and a DJ Night. A cash prize of \$25.00 was donated for the 1st place winner in the contest, and camp shirts were given to the runners-up. 1st place went to Tonya Brown of Mt. Pleasant; 2nd place went to Travis Bryson of Gaffney and his assistant Latisha Henning from Union; and 3rd place was awarded to Regina Legette from Terrels Bay. For the DJ Night, local radio DJ, Mixon Dixon from WAVE 104 set up a booth in the gymnasium where FFAers could dance or just hang out and listen to the music. With regard to activity participation, Watson said, "We had a great turnout. Participation and cooperation was fantastic." Camp trophies were also awarded at the end of the week to Mayo High School and Manning High School.

After the conclusion of the opening session, the remaining theme weeks focused on Agricultural Science and



Jonathon Leopard and Joey Staton of Travelers Rest use their free time to get out of the sun and play ping-pong at the FFA Camp.



Radio DJ Mixon Dixon (l) of Myrtle Beach's WAVE 104 and FFA Interim Camp Director David Watson strike a pose during an informal drop-in and dance held mid-week for FFA campers.



The horseshoe pit, located in front of the guest house, was a popular spot for serious "shoe" competitors.



Leadership activities like this one promote cooperation and teamwork between different chapters.

## Technology, FFA Chapter Leadership Conference and Project Pals.

Almost always boasting the largest turnout of the summer, the FFA Chapter Leadership Conference held June 27-30 not only provided an opportunity for fellowship and recreation, but allowed chapter officers to focus on leadership skills, develop chapter and state FFA activities and goals, and review the obligations and duties of being a chapter officer.

To assist with this task, former State Secretary Lee Mayfield and Fred Jordan, of the Oklahoma FFA, arrived to conduct the 1-1/2 day Made for Excellence seminar entitled "Voyage of Discovery". In it, Mayfield and Jordan showed the officers how to chart their own course and set personal goals to follow through the FFA.

Several advisors, including Britton's Neck's Jerry Pace and McBee's Pat Earle, spoke to the members about the importance of chapter communication and goal-setting. They established guidelines for everything from setting goals and organizing groups to planning and holding a chapter banquet. For the latter, a mock banquet was held at the end of the week to illustrate the amount of detail that is necessary to successfully complete such a task.

During this time the chapter members were not the only ones receiving instruction and guidance at the camp. National FFA Teacher Services Specialist Carol Duval flew in from Virginia to conduct a day-long training workshop for the teachers. In the workshop, Duval reviewed a multitude of topics ranging from notification of changing contest requirements to tips on setting up a realistic chapter budget.

With the conclusion of the final week, in which the chapters had the opportunity to bring their Pals to swim, play Putt-Putt, and visit the beach, the FFA Camp at Cherry Grove closed the door on yet another successful season filled with new opportunities and educational experiences.



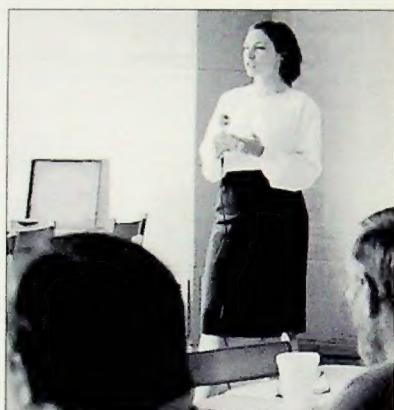
SIDEOUT FFA! FFAers take it to the net after lunch on the camp volleyball court.



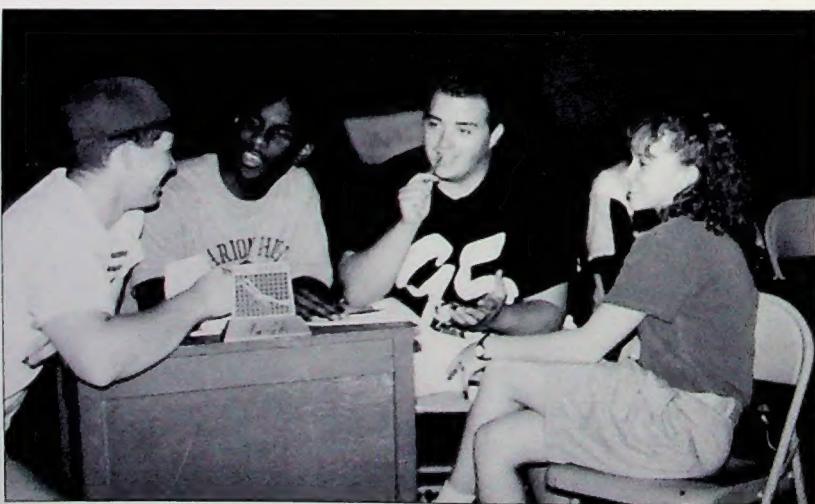
Advisor Audie Green and members Andy Goodson and Scott Starnes from the Career Center of Anderson traveled more than 5 hours to attend Leadership Camp at Cherry Grove.



Reporter Angela Rauch introduces Lee Mayfield, past state officer and current member of the National FFA Made For Excellence staff during a mock banquet for the "Cherry Grove Chapter".



National FFA Teacher Services Specialist Carol Duval conducts an ag teacher workshop during Leadership Week.



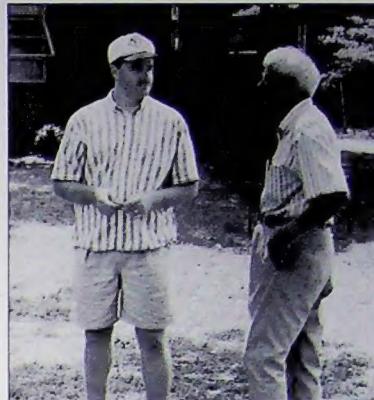
New officers Scott Gant, Willie Hayes, Shane Elrod and Chanda Helms hold an informal planning meeting during a break in the Made for Excellence program.

# H.C. Edens Retires as FFA Camp Director

Since first arriving in Myrtle Beach more than 30 years ago, H.C. Edens has worked tirelessly to provide quality agricultural education and supervision to FFA students. After graduating in 1937 from what was then known as Clemson College, Edens established an agriculture department at Myrtle Beach High School where he taught agriculture, shop and horticulture for the next 42 years.

As FFA camp director, Mr. Edens worked even longer, serving as camp director for over 50 years until his retirement in February. The camp, which he originally opened in Murrells Inlet 58 years ago and moved to Little River Neck, has flourished and become a model for other FFA camps to emulate. Through his dedication and hard work, the camp has been recognized as one of the best of its kind in the nation.

Over the years, Mr. Edens has over-



H.C. Edens speaks to Advisor Rodney Mann of Ridge-Spring Monetta at the FFA Camp in Cherry Grove, SC.

seen the camp's many changes, including its move to Little River Neck, where it is currently located. He has seen thousands

of students through the program, where they swim, play volleyball, softball and badminton and participate in training and leadership sessions.

In 1989, Mr. Edens was recognized by Clemson University as one of its 100 most distinguished alumni. Edens was one of 12 people honored for "outstanding work with youth programs."

New interim camp director David Watson knows he has big shoes to fill. "Mr. Edens was a very dedicated, hands-on oriented camp director," said Watson. "He has great administrative and maintenance skills and knows every aspect of this camp."

Now that he has retired, Mr. Edens will continue to remain busy by landscaping his home on Mullet Creek in Little River with his wife of 55 years, Ann, who is also a retired school teacher. Mr. Edens' presence and guidance at the camp will surely be missed.



## Guest House at FFA Camp Gets Facelift

When the guest house at the FFA camp in Myrtle Beach was found to be full of asbestos, Richard Ward, owner of the Carolina Asbestos Company, came to the rescue! Mr. Ward and his staff donated the company's time and equipment and finished the job in 7 days, just in time for the first group of campers.

FFA advisor Jerry Pace and the Britton's Neck FFA chapter also donated time in helping clean up the guest house and move furniture back in. FFA Interim Camp Director David Watson was

extremely pleased. "I hope that in the future other chapters will be willing to donate their time toward making our camp the best in the country," he said.

Other renovations to the guest house include four air conditioned guest rooms, a newly painted interior, new television, microwave and VCR, new window blinds, new carpet, and new living room furniture. In the future, plans are being made to repaint the exterior. If you and your FFA chapter are interested in helping out, please contact

David Watson at the Cherry Grove FFA camp at (803) 249-6104.

Once again, many thanks to Richard Ward and his staff at Carolina Asbestos Company, Mr. Pace and FFA members: Vince Pace, Richard Pitts, Jerome Woodberry, Tim Holden, Xavier Davis, Reggie Graves, Lance Robertson, Alan Prosser and Eric Graves. Because of the generosity and good-will shown by all these individuals, the FFA camp goes on as planned and is better than ever!



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Dan Poston—1985-1986 State President  
Britton's Neck Chapter

Andrew M. Carter—1981-1982 State Sentinel  
Bamberg-Ehrhardt Chapter

Frank Stover Jr.—1977-1978 State Reporter  
Pelion Chapter

Raymond Flemming—1974-1975 State Treasurer  
Abbeville Chapter

Keith Barnett—1969-1970 State President  
Duncan Chapter

Agriculture Teacher at Marion High School

Operates a farm in Bamberg County, South Carolina.  
President of YFA South Carolina State Chapter in 1993.  
Honored as the South Carolina Young Farmer of the Year for 1994.

Agriculture Teacher at Pelion High School

Operates a livestock barn, the Chester Livestock Market, Inc. in Chester, South Carolina.

President of Barnett Contracting, Inc., Barnett Nurseries, Inc. and Thumbs Up Services in Lyman, South Carolina





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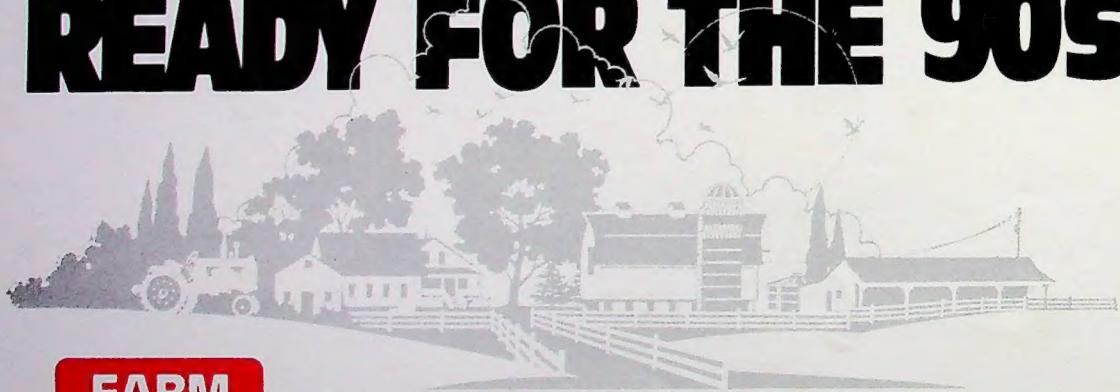
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